

Hello Troop 66 Scouts, Scouters and Parents;

Meeting this week (Monday, Dec 11) starts at 7 pm at the First Congregational Church Center located at 9th and Francis St. in Longmont.

This week Mr. Bollacker will continue teaching the Emergency Prep Merit Badge. Please bring paper and pencil to the meeting.

Our librarian, Gabriel M., will have our new and improved library out and accessible for scouts to check out new books. We will have a catalog list of all books available including the 78 newly purchased merit badge books. Gabe will also have a list of current merit badge counselors to take home and keep as a reference. We hope scouts will consider starting a new merit badge over the 3 weeks we won't be meeting.

Agenda for this Monday Night's Troop meeting:

- 6:45 **Service Patrol (Beast)** setup for flag ceremony and tables for adult meetings and patrol meetings.
- 7:00 Opening Flag Ceremony (**Class A Uniforms**). Announcements.
- 7:15 Emergency Prep Merit Badge [part 2]
- 7:55 Games
- 8:25 Closing Announcements. Clean-up

Upcoming Troop Activities:

This Saturday, December 16 Scout Leaders Position Training Class 10 am – 2 pm Location: FCC on 9th and Francis. All newly elected Scout Leaders, and those continuing on in their current positions, are highly encouraged to attend this fun and informative class to help them learn and understand the responsibilities of their position. This class will help each Scout to build their leadership skills and be the most effective in their service to the troop. Our Troop Trainer, Chad Bollacker, will be leading this training. Please sign up in Troop WebHost if you plan on attending so we can make sure we have enough materials and order enough pizza for lunch. Please wear your **COMPLETE Class A uniforms** to this meeting.

Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) James B.

Assistant Senior Patrol Leader (ASPL) Asa R.

Beast

PL-Grant O.

APL-Kyle T.

Dragon

PL-Javin F.

APL-Gabe M.

Spartan

PL-Luke X.

APL-Eric Y.

Stealth

PL-Matthew R.

APL-Lance M.

Troop Guide

Luke M.

[Upcoming Service Opportunities for our Charter Organization.](#) Mark your calendars:

First Congregational Church needs some help from our Scouts with the following activities:

Thursday, December 21 5-7 pm Winter Solstice Event at the Church. Help serve cocoa and build and maintain bon fire for Winter Solstice caroling event. Sign up now in TroopWeb Host. [Class A Uniforms.]

Sunday, December 24 Set Up Milk Jug Luminaries for Christmas Eve Service. Our Scouts will show up at 4 pm and set up and light luminaries along the path entering the church. We will light the luminaries and then put them out and pack up by 6 pm. Save your 1 gallon milk jugs! We will use them to make the luminaries. Sign up now in TroopWeb Host. [Class A Uniforms.]

NO Troop Meetings: December 18 and 25 and January 1 and 15.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE ACTIVITIES COMING IN 2018:

Tuesday, January 2 PLC Meeting at 7 pm at First Congregational Church. We need all elected Scout Leaders to attend the Patrol Leader's Council so we can plan the meetings in January and early February. Normally PLC is the 3rd Tuesday of every month but we will skip PLC in December so we need to move it up in January. We will return to our regular PLC dates in February.

Saturday, January 20 Mountain View District Merit Badge College. Every year our District puts on its own Merit Badge classes in Longmont. Class offerings and information about this event will be coming soon.

AoL/Open House Meetings for those interested in Scouting or joining our Troop. January 22 and February 12. During these regular meetings we will be hosting visitors who will be seeing what Scouting is all about. We will have fun Scout skills stations led by our Scouts. Please see Mrs. Martinez for fliers to give to friends who might be interested in attending one of these Open House nights.

Monday, January 29 Winter Court of Honor. We will be recognizing Advancements and those earning Merit Badges since our Court of Honor in September. All requirements for advancement and merit badges need to be complete by Monday, January 22.

February 23-24 MV/IP Klondike Derby

General Announcements:

I am looking for a Boy Scout to be our **webmaster**. This does not require a lot of time, but is very necessary to keep our website current.

If you haven't already: **Sign Up NOW for Summer Camp 2018 at Camp Alexander**. This year Troop 66 will be attending camp at Camp Alexander located 45 miles west of Colorado Springs and 2 miles south of Lake George in Elevenmile Canyon **during the week of Jun 3-9, 2018**. The cost for the week is \$350/Scout which is payable in installments as described in the attached registration form.

In order for Troop 66 to secure your spot for Summer Camp, **you must complete the registration form** (attached here and also available at our Troop meetings), **and submit a \$35 non-refundable deposit** to "Troop 66," to Mr. Scott Francis, Troop 66 Treasurer, or Mrs. Martinez, Troop 66 Summer Camp Coordinator. Our troop has already submitted our registration but Scouts are still permitted to register (there is a chance the camp will fill up if you wait).

Troop Web Host is Live and we need ALL families on it, ASAP. We have subscribed to a web-based Troop management software that will help our Troop Leaders, parents and Scouts access and manage our advancement records, financials and communications. **Please log in and update your information, especially your email address, and check out all of the features.** Consider serving the troop as a Merit Badge Counselor. troopwebhost.org/Troop66Longmont/

If you did not receive your login credentials from TroopWebHost, please email Mr. Foss at foss@airmail.net. We have a laptop setup at our meetings for those who like to sign up at meetings and might be uncomfortable with computers. However, you need to bring your own login username and password. Please help us get you up-to-speed on this web based management software so we can streamline the activity management and workload on our adult leaders.

Volunteer Opportunities: We could use a few adult volunteers to help with some specific assignments that will help spread out the work and make the Scouting experience better for our Scouts. Please see me if you are interested in learning more about how you can help in these areas:

Photograph Organizer and Court of Honor Slide Presentation Creator: We have some great photographs taken since the last Court of Honor especially from Summer Camp. We could really use an adult (a Scout too who could serve as our Historian) who is willing to gather and organize photos on TroopWebHost and then make simple slide presentations at our Courts of Honor three times a year. Please let me know if you are interested in helping out with this.

Many Thanks to Steve Longenecker and Michael Rivas who will become our new Advancement Chairmen! Having to adult leaders serve in this important role makes sure we have someone to help the boys at every meeting. We are grateful to Thomas Larsen for his many years of service in this position and for training Steve and Michael for this role.

Fundraising Activities:

Reloadable King Soopers Cards: This is a friendly reminder to keep using those reloadable King Soopers gift cards for your grocery and gas purchases at any Kroger store in the country. The proceeds from this "passive" troop fundraiser are really making a big difference in our troop's operating account. If you don't have the special reloadable gift cards, Ms. Debbie Platts, our troop fundraiser coordinator, will sell you a card for \$5 each (already loaded with \$5) so you can help our troop. Consider asking friends,

family, neighbors, coworkers, church members, etc. if they can use the cards. With just a little bit of work, our troop reaps huge rewards!

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Yours in Scouting,

Tony Martinez

Scoutmaster, Troop 66

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